

December 2005 Update

Kennecott South Zone Superfund Site Copperton, Utah (Review Date 6/30/2004)

Highlights Since the 2004 5-Year Review

- Brief city employees to ensure site remedy remains protective
- Repair gully discharges from Trans-Jordan Landfill

Brief Site History: Kennecott South Superfund Site includes the Bingham Mining district in the Oquirrh Mountains about 25 miles southwest of Salt Lake City. The mountain range represents the west boundary of the Salt Lake Valley. Mining activities at the site began in the 1860s and continue to the present at the large Bingham Canyon open-pit mine. Historic mining operations produced lead, zinc, silver, copper, molybdenum and gold ores. Kennecott Utah Copper Company (Kennecott) and the Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO) are conducting cleanup activities of mine waste dumps, mill tailings, smelter wastes, ground water and surface water, including wetlands, with oversight by state and federal agencies. Cleanups began in and along Bingham Creek in 1991 as a Removal Action. Although this site was not listed in the NPL, the concept was that the responses would be equivalent to those of listed sites.

Cleanup Activities Completed: Cleanups of the following sites involved digging up near-surface soil wastes with high lead and arsenic levels and removal of the wastes to collection and storage areas:

- Bingham Creek Residential Neighborhoods, Bingham Creek Channel and Large Bingham Reservoir
- Butterfield Mine Waste Rock and other canyon wastes
- Herriman Residential Neighborhoods
- Lark Tailings, Mine Waste Rock & Wetlands
- South Jordan Evaporation Ponds
- Anaconda Tailings

Current Status: Notwithstanding the fact that the Kennecott North and South Zone sites are not on the NPL, EPA Region 8, will conduct Five-Year Reviews for this site in an ongoing commitment to ensure that the remedies remain protective of human health and the environment. Wastes are left in place on OUs 1, 5, 10, 11 and 17. OU4 is an operational facility which continues to handle hazardous materials. Some changes have been noted to OUs due to changes in land use, weathering and construction activities. To determine if remedies remained effective in protecting human health and the environment each operable unit was visited and appropriate records inspected.

Summary of Protectiveness: The remedy as designed, constructed, implemented and operated is currently protective of human health and the environment. Surface soils with high lead and arsenic levels have been removed and contaminated groundwater is contained and protected by institutional controls.

Issues Impacting Protectiveness: A few issues that do not immediately impact the protectiveness of the remedy were noted. The following table summarizes the status of the follow-up actions addressing these issues.

**Five-Year Review Update Table
(Review Date 6/30/04)**

Issue	Recommendations/ Follow-up	Follow-up Actions (Status/ Due Date)	Status of Follow-up Actions 12/05	Resp. Party
1) Historic mining site now has tourist center, historic sites (11), residential housing (10), changes of land use from agricultural to industrial (17)	Continue to monitor changes in land use for OUs 10,11 and 17	Ongoing	Current protectiveness not affected.	Kennecott, EPA
2) Gully discharges from Trans-Jordan Landfill access and Rt. 111 were eroding gully	Repair erosion in gully at Trans-Jordan Landfill	September 2003	Gully repaired.	Trans-Jordan Landfill, EPA
3) Erosion, new construction, flood control construction, could damage cap at OU1.	Brief new city employees about Bingham Creek	September 2004	Current protectiveness not affected	Salt Lake County Flood Control
4) Erosion could damage cap at OU 5	Continue to monitor OU5 ARCO Tailings for erosion, continue open space land use.	Ongoing	Current protectiveness not affected	EPA, ARCO